The Daily Courant.

Tuesday, September 18. 1705.

From the Paris Gazette, dated September 19.

Madrid, September 3.

OUR Letters from Valencia of the 26th of last Month have brought us the following Particulars of the Enemies Expedition on the Coast of that Kingdom. After having taken in Water at Altea, they came before Denia, which being an open Place and wholly defenceless, there was no Garrison in it. They landed there 400 seditious Vagabonds, of the number of those who in the Year 1692 revolted against their Lords, to exempt themselves from their Duty of Vassalage: These Persons were taken on Board at Altea, under 4 Chiefs, all of them Outlaws, whose Names are Bacet, Ramos, Avila, and Gil Cabecos. They were promis'd in the Name of the Arch-Duke, that they should be exempted from all manner of Imposts; but above all to be infranchis'd for ever from all Homage due from them to their Lords, and that all the Lands they could make themselves Masters of should be their own. Not one of the Gentry came in to 'em. Nay there was not any Town or Village that declar'd for 'em, except only the Inhabitants of a little Hamlet, call'd Xalo, where there are only a few Fishermen, or idle Persons, to whom they gave some Ammunition and then set sail for the Coast of Catalonia. Mean-while the Marquis of Villagarcia, Viceroy of Valencia, gave Orders with great Diligence for drawing together the regular Troops and the Militia, in case the Enemy should have made a Descent at Denia. By the 17th, there were 8 Troops of Horse of 40 Troopers each, and 20 Companies of Foot, of 75 Men each, in a condition of marching; the Towns and other Places, tho' they are not oblig'd to contribute to the Militia, having promis'd to defray the Soldiers Expences going and coming. The general Rendezvous was first appointed at Gandia, but it has been since order'd at Oliva, because that Place is nearer Denia. The Nobility and Gentry of the Country come in from all Parts to the Viceroy, and promise to oppose the Enemy with their Lives and Fortunes. The Clergy, on the first notice of the Enemies landing went to the Arch-Bishop of Valencia, to make him the like Promises; and the Example of that City has been follow'd by the Ecclesiasticks of the whole Diocess, who have offer'd even the Plate of their Churches, saying the War was now come to be a War of Religion, since the Arch-Duke was at the Head of an Army, compos'd of none but Hereticks. They have since written to the King a very respectful Letter and full of Protestations of Fidelity. The Duke of Gandia, who has many great Estates in the Kingdom of Valencia, is gone post thither to encourage by his Presence the People to continue in their Allegiance. We have Advice by Letters from Barcelona, that on the 27th, the Enemy were continuing to land their Troops, and that Don Francisco de Velasco, Viceroy of Catalonia, had given all the necessary Orders to oppose their Designs. A Party commanded by Don Joseph de Ocio Salazar has taken some English Prisoners, one of whom says they have 8000 Men that are to be landed, and that this number might be increas'd by 4000 Seamen; that their Cavalry, when they were imbark'd might amount to 1400 Horse, but that they were now in a very ill Condition, having suffer'd very much, and many of them being dead in the Voyage. Some other Prisoners and Deserters make not their Troops amount to so many; nay they say there are scarce 500 Horse in condition to serve: They report farther that the Enemies are landing 8 Cannon and 2 Mortars. The Nobility and common People of the Principality of Catalonia have hitherto given all possible Marks of their Loyalty and Zeal, except only about 800 Peasants of the Plain of Vick, who have secur'd some of the Passes to cut off the Provisions. The Miquelets have begun to fall upon them; and on the 26th, they charg'd one of their Parties, and kill'd several of them. They brought 2 of their Chiefs of 'em to Barcelona, where they were hang'd that very Day, the People expressing great Satisfaction at the Punishment of those Rebels.

From the Amsterdam Gazette, dated September 22.

Paris, September 14. Our last Advices from Spain confirm that 3 or 4000 Peasants of the Kingdom of Valencia have taken up Arms in behalf of their King Charles III. and have already possess'd themselves of some Posts; but that the Nobility have been with the Viceroy to offer him their Service, and that the Inhabitants of Valencia and of some other Towns, together with Priests and Monks of all the several Orders, had ask'd him leave to take Arms. The same Advices confirm that the Trenches were open'd before Barcelona the 31st of last Month, and that the Communication of that Place with Perpignan was intirely cut off. The Troops the Enemies have landed, consist of 19 Battallions English and Dutch, amounting to 11000 Men, and of 8 Squadrons of Dragoons. These Forces being Masters of the Country, the Emissaries of King Charles run all over the Province, to perswade the People to acknowledge that Prince, and to submit to his Obedience, and many have already taken an Oath of Fidelity to him. The Prince of Darmstat is forming some Regimets of Miquelets. 'Tis said, the Viceroy has discover'd a Conspiracy in Barcelona to deliver up the Place; and that he has taken up the principal Conspirators. The Troops that were order'd for Catalonia, advance but slowly, and 'tis now said they will not go thither at all.

From the Leiden Gazette, dated September 22.

Montpellier, September 6. Two days ago we receiv'd Letters from Gironne and Roses in Catalonia, which advis'd that the Enemies, after they had landed about 10000 Men in that Principality, were join'd by 5000, who had taken up Arms in the Province of Vick: That they had landed afterwards 37 Pieces of Cannon and 20 Mortars, with Ammunition in good Store; That all the little Towns, Boroughs and Villages a-round Barcelona had declar'd for their King Charles the 3d, and already taken an Oath of Fidelity to him; that the Soldiers of the Garrison of Barcelona, who were upon the Guard at the Gate St. Angelo, had likewise deserted to the Enemy, with all their Officers, the Captain only excepted; That some other Officers who were accus'd of holding Correspondence with the Enemy, had been secur'd by Order of the Viceroy, who had caus'd a Captain of Horse to be beheaded. To day we have receiv'd other Letters from Gironne and Oftalric, which say that the Enemy have already form'd the Siege of Barcelona: That on the 31st of last Month in the Evening they had open'd the Trenches before that

that Place on the ſide of the Mills that are behind the Croſs of St. Francis: That they are raiſing their Batteries with all poſſible Diligence; That they were preparing 3 ſeveral Attacks againſt the Place; That King Charles III. commanded in Perſon at one of theſe Attacks, the Prince of Heſſe Darmſtad at another, and the Malecontents of Vick the third; That ſeveral great Towns had declar'd for King Charles: That the Governours of Gironne and Roſes preſſed very hard for ſome ſpeedy Relief to be ſent them, declaring they could not otherwiſe make any Reſiſtance in caſe they were attack'd; and that the Viceroy had likewiſe given to underſtand, that Barcelona was in great danger, as well as all Catalonia. We have here but 6 Battallions of regular Troops, and 8 Companies of the 2d Battallion of Languedoc; 'twas believ'd theſe Troops would have march'd to the Relief of Catalonia, together with ſome others that might have been drawn out of other Places: But they have not yet receiv'd any Orders to march.

Paris, September 14. The Court has receiv'd the Confirmation of the Trenches being open'd before Barcelona and that the Enemy are working on their Batteries with great Diligence, and had already landed 37 pieces of heavy Cannon and 20 Mortars. That King Charles had taken up his Quarters at the Caſtle of Fanges, Prince Darmſtadt his, at the Caſtle of Cellares, and the Rebels of Vick, theirs in the Valley from Hoſpitaletto extending themſelves from that Place to the Mouth of the Haven. We are more and more apprehenſive of this Inſurrection in Catalonia, leſt it ſhould become a general Revolt. We have Advice by Letters from Lions, that the Communication between Perpignan and Barcelona is ſhut up, and that the Malecontents of Vick have ſeiz'd ſome of our Couriers, and taken away their Mails.

From the Leiden Courant, dated September 23.

Geneva, September 11. They write from ſeveral Places, that there was a Report, that the Neapolitan Guards, who came ſome time ſince to Barcelona, had, together with their General the Duke of Popoli, join'd the Forces King Charles the 3d had landed: That all the little Towns thereabouts had taken an Oath of Fidelity to that Prince; and that the Troops that were order'd from France for Italy, were countermanded, and had taken the Route of Catalonia.

Paris, September 18. 'Tis given out at Court, that the Marquis of Bytona is come into Catalonia with ſome Horſe [the Paris Letter ſays 1800] and a Body of Foot, and 'tis hop'd he will render the taking of Barcelona very difficult to the Allies.

From the Harlem Courant, dated September 11.

Geneva, September 10. They write from Perpignan of the 5th Inſtant, That Advice was come thither from Catalonia, that the Allies had begun to bombard the Town of Barcelona; That thereupon 'twas expected there would be a great Inſurrection in the Town, and that the Viceroy had ſecur'd the Governour and Town Major, for holding Correſpondence with King Charles the 3d. There was alſo a Report that the Troops that lately came thither from Naples, had deſerted.

From the Duke of Marlborough's *Camp at* Arſchot, September 22. N.S. 'The 18th Inſtant the Army commanded by his Grace the Duke of Marlborough decamped from Walsbergen, and, being joined by the Army of the States which marched the Day before, encamped with the Right at Montaigu, and the Left at Webbekum. The ſame Day a Detachment of 500 Foot and 300 Horſe, of the Troops that were employ'd in the Siege of Leuwe, were ordered to advance towards Arſchot, to ſecure the Town, and ſuch Places in the Neighbourhood where the Demer might be paſſed; but the Enemy having broke down their Bridges over that River, and left a Detachment of 200 Foot and 3 Squadrons of Dragoons in the Town, our Detachment lay that Night before the Gates, but without ſuffering any Loſs. The 19th the Army marched from Montaigu; and the Enemy, upon our making Bridges over the Demer, having quitted this Town, a Detachment of our Troops was order'd to march in; and the Army having paſſed the River without any Oppoſition, encamped with the Right at Meerbeck, and the Left at this Place, where moſt of the General Officers have taken their Quarters. Fifty Men out of each Battallion were this Day ordered to march to demoliſh the Enemy's old Line behind our Camp, from the Demer to the Neeth. The Enemy are encamped within the new Line which they began laſt Year, and have lately finiſhed, between Boeſchet on the Neeth, and Werchteren on the Demer. His Grace went yeſterday Morning to Tournhout to meet the Penſioner of Amſterdam, and returned hither this Afternoon.

A Letter from the Hague, dated Sept. 21. N. S.

NOtwithſtanding many think that the Campaign is as good as ended, yet ſeveral People are of Opinion that Lier and St. Vliet will be taken by the Confederate Armies, before they leave the Field. We alſo hear of a Detachment to be ſent to Prince Lewis of Baden, to facilitate his Deſigns in Germany. We hear of a Scheme of a Line to be drawn in Brabant, by which our Forces will be in a Condition to put a very conſiderable part of Brabant under Contribution, and ſecure Winter-quarters for a good number of our Troops. Several Generals and Miniſters of State of moſt Parties engag'd in this preſent War, being now at Aken or Aix la Chapelle give Occaſion of Diſcourſes concerning a Treaty of Peace, and ſome ſay, That Monſieur de Quiros has made ſome Propoſals towards ſettling the Preliminaries of it; but 'tis generally thought this is but a trick of France, to amuſe the Allies by proffering ſome of them ſeparately very favourable Terms, &c. We have poſitive Diſcourſes here, That moſt of our Men of War are to ſtay in the Mediterranean; and yet ſeveral Tranſport Ships are hired to bring them all neceſſary Supplies under a very good Convoy. We expect to hear of Barcelona's being ſurrender'd every Day; and our laſt News gives us an Account that the Diſcontents in Spain againſt the French encreaſe daily; and that they long for a ſafe Opportunity to declare for King Charles III.

Laſt Friday's Letters from Paris ſay, That an Expreſs being arrived at Court, and the Diſpatches being kept very cloſe, occaſion'd Diſcourſes there, that Barcelona was loſt, and Valencia, Andaluſia and other Provinces revolted: It is alſo ſaid a conſiderable number of Malecontents in Languedoc and the Cevennes have taken up Arms again: So that the French King has countermanded ſeveral Battallions that were to march to Italy, to re-enforce the Duke of Vendome.

Rotterdam, The 22d Inſtant ſome French Letters ſay, the French King has receiv'd an Expreſs that Barcelona was ſurrender'd the 7th Inſtant; the Inhabitants having forced the Governour and his Garriſon to it, to prevent that Citys being ruin'd by the Bombs, &c. The Armies under his Grace the Duke of Marlborough and my Lord Auverquerque are now encamped at Rarſchot and Ooeſterwyck. We hear from Landau, with a Poſtſcript of the 15th Inſtant, That the French are retir'd quite to Straatsburg, having left 1500 Men in Hagenau and 2000 in Fort Lewis, Which Places we hear are to be beſieged by Prince Lewis of Baden. Some ſay the Duke of Marlborough is to go to Aix la Chapelle in few Days.

Mechelen, September 21. The Duke of Marlborough is near our New Lines at Meerbeke; and the Elector of Bavaria between Boitſchot and Heyſt to obſerve him. P. S. Since Yeſterday in the Afternoon, we have heard a continual Cannonading here, which makes us ſuppoſe an Action between the Armies.

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